

Appl. No. 10/624,017
Atty. Docket No. P-124C2
Response, to Office Action June 6, 2005
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1-22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A process for controlling fecal hair excretion and trichobezoar formation in an animal comprising feeding the animal a composition comprising from about 10% to about 42% crude protein, from about 4% to about 30% fat, from about 1% to about 25% total dietary fiber, all by weight of the composition, and a supplemental fiber source; wherein said animal is a cat or a rabbit.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the composition comprises from about 1% to about 13% of supplemental total dietary fiber, by weight of the composition.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the supplemental fiber source is selected from the group consisting of at least one fermentable fiber; a blend of at least two fermentable fibers; a blend of at least one fermentable fiber and a cellulose ether; a blend of at least one fermentable fiber, a cellulose ether, and mineral oil; and a blend of at least one fermentable fiber and at least one non-fermentable fiber.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 25 wherein the fermentable fiber(s) comprise a fiber selected from the group consisting of beet pulp, gum arabic, fructooligosaccharides, and blends thereof.

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Claim 27 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the supplemental fiber source comprises a blend of beet pulp and carboxymethylcellulose.

Claim 28 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the supplemental fiber source comprises a blend of beet pulp, carboxymethylcellulose, and mineral oil.

Claim 29 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the supplemental fiber source comprises a blend of beet pulp and cellulose.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 24 wherein the supplemental fiber source comprises beet pulp.

Claim 31 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the composition comprises from about 6% to about 12% of supplemental total dietary fiber, by weight of the composition.

Claim 32 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the composition comprises from about 10% to about 12% of supplemental total dietary fiber, by weight of the composition.

Claim 33 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the composition comprises about 6% beet pulp, about 2% gum arabic, and about 1.5% fructooligosaccharides, all by weight of the composition.

Claim 34 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the composition comprises about 6% beet pulp and about 1.5% carboxymethylcellulose, all by weight of the composition.

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Claim 35 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the composition comprises about 6% beet pulp and about 6.5% cellulose, all by weight of the composition.

Claim 36 (Previously presented): The process according to Claim 23 wherein the composition comprises about 12% beet pulp, by weight of the composition.